

Docket No. PHUS-7

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 remain pending. No new claims have been added. Claims 24-27 have been amended. No new claims have been added. No claims have been canceled. All other claims remain the same. Reconsideration of the claims as presented herein is respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the various telephone interviews held between Examiner and the undersigned during the days of August 11-13, 2003. During the telephone interviews, agreement was reached as to the allowability of claims 1-55 pending amendment of claims 24-27 as indicated herein. The text of the amendments entered herein was also agreed upon. Applicants appreciate Examiner's careful attention to this application.

The claims are amended as follows and as detailed in the attached "Amendments to the Claims":

In lines 2-5 of subsection d) of claim 24: replace the phrase "wherein the first ... one or more active agents" with -- wherein the osmotic device operates as follows in the one or more environments of use: the external coat partially or completely dissolves, erodes, swells and/or detaches from the osmotic device thereby releasing the second active agent and exposing the polymer coat; at least a portion of the polymer coat then dissolves and/or erodes thereby exposing the semipermeable membrane and the preformed passageway; the first active agent is then released from the core, such that the first and second active agents are released into the same or different environments of use to provide a controlled delivery of the one or more active agents --.

In lines 2-4 of subsection d) of claim 25: replace the phrase "wherein the first ... environments of use" with -- wherein the osmotic device operates as follows in the one or more environments of use: the external coat partially or completely dissolves, erodes, swells and/or detaches from the osmotic device thereby releasing the second active agent and exposing the polymer coat; at least a portion of the polymer coat then dissolves and/or erodes thereby exposing the semipermeable membrane and the preformed passageway; the first active agent is then released from the core, such that the first and second active agents are released into the same or different environments of use to provide a controlled delivery of the one or more active agents --.

In lines 2-4 of subsection d) of claim 26: replace the phrase "wherein the first ... environments of use" with -- wherein the osmotic device operates as follows in the one or more environments of use: the external coat partially or completely dissolves, erodes, swells and/or detaches from the osmotic device thereby releasing the second active agent and exposing the

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polymer coat; at least a portion of the polymer coat then dissolves and/or erodes thereby exposing the semipermeable membrane and the preformed passageway; the first active agent is then released from the core, such that the first and second active agents are released into the same or different environments of use to provide a controlled delivery of the one or more active agents –.

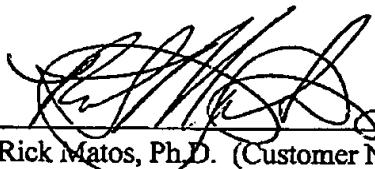
In lines 3-6 of subsection d) of claim 27: replace the phrase “wherein the first ... environments of use” with – wherein the osmotic device operates as follows in the one or more environments of use: the external coat partially or completely dissolves, erodes, swells and/or detaches from the osmotic device thereby releasing the second active agent and exposing the polymer coat; at least a portion of the polymer coat then dissolves and/or erodes thereby exposing the semipermeable membrane and the preformed passageway; the first active agent is then released from the core, such that the first and second active agents are released into the same or different environments of use to provide a controlled delivery of the one or more active agents –.

Applicants submit that no new subject matter has been added by way of the amendment entered herein. The subject matter for the amendments is found in the issued patent (Col. 5, lines 1-57).

Applicants have made a diligent effort to advance the prosecution of the application by amending the claims and presenting supporting arguments. In view of the above, applicants submit that the claims are in form for allowance. An early notice of allowance thereof is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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